

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An adhesive with high mechanical strength, characterized in that it contains a diacetal which is linear or cyclic, being able to be prepared from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> aldehydes and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub> alcohols.

2. (original) An adhesive according to claim 1, characterized in that it contains a diacetal prepared from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> aldehydes and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alcohols.

3. (currently amended) An adhesive according to claim ~~1 or 2~~, characterized in that it contains a diacetal prepared from C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> aldehydes and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alcohols.

4. (currently amended) An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains a diacetal selected from the group consisting of 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2,-tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane ~~or~~ and 1,1,3,3-tetraethoxypropane.

5. (currently amended) An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane.

6. (currently amended) An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, characterized in that it contains any combination of two or three diacetals.

7. (currently amended) An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is an aminoresin adhesive, particularly of the melamine-urea-formaldehyde type.

8. ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is a phenolic resin adhesive, particularly of the phenol-formaldehyde type.

9. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that it is an aminoresin, phenolic resin or resorcinol adhesive, with or without formaldehyde.

10. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive according to ~~claim 7~~ claim 1, which is an aminoresin adhesive, characterized in that it is based on a nitrogen compound/formaldehyde mixture in proportions of 1/0.2 to 3.

11. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 1, which is a phenolic resin adhesive, characterized in that it is based on a phenol/formaldehyde mixture in proportions of 1/0.7 to 2.8.

12. (currently amended) ~~Adhesive~~ An adhesive according to ~~one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, characterized in that the ~~acetal or acetals~~ diacetal or diacetals represent 1.7 to 25% by weight of all of the constituents of the adhesive.

13. (currently amended) Agricultural waste or a wood composition such as fibreboards, particle boards, oriented strand boards or OSB, Medium and High Density Fibreboards or MDF), and other types of similar boards and plywoods containing an adhesive as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 19~~ claim 1 or prepared using such an adhesive.

14. (currently amended) A paper or laminated board containing a resin or adhesive as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1 or prepared using a resin or adhesive as above, or a product prepared using such papers or laminated boards.

15. (currently amended) A method for the gluing of fibres in which fibres are glued using a ~~resin or an~~ adhesive as defined in ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1.

16. (new) An adhesive according to claim 1, characterized in that it contains any combination of two or three diacetals selected from the group consisting of 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane, and 1,1,3,3-tetraethoxypropane.

17. (new) An adhesive according to claim 1, characterized in that it contains a diacetal or diacetals selected from the group consisting of 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane and 1,1,3,3-tetraethoxypropane, in an amount of 1.7 to 25% by weight of all constituents.

18. (new) Agricultural waste or wood composition according to claim 13, characterized in that it contains an adhesive containing a diacetal selected from the group consisting of 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane and 1,1,3,3-tetraethoxypropane, or prepared using such an adhesive.

19. (new) A paper or laminated board according to claim 14, characterized in that it contains an adhesive containing a diacetal selected from the group consisting of

1,1,2,2-tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane,  
1,1,2,2-tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane and  
1,1,3,3- tetraethoxypropane, or prepared using such an  
adhesive.

20. (new) A method according to claim 15,  
characterized in that the adhesive contains a diacetal  
selected from the group consisting of 1,1,2,2-  
tetramethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-tetraethoxyethane, 1,1,2,2-  
tetrapropoxyethane, 1,1,3,3-tetramethoxypropane and 1,1,3,3-  
tetraethoxypropane.